

In fact

For The Millions Who Want a Free Press

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See Page 3

Re-entered as second-class matter March 12, 1941, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879.

Huge 5th Column Press

AN ominous danger signal was flashed last week with the revelation that there are no less than 95 pro-Axis publications appearing in the United States today, with a total circulation of 7,000,000. William L Shirer stated this in a broadcast (WABC March 15) following publication of the same story in PM and the Christian Science Monitor a few days before. The total of 95 is official, based on government figures.

Falsehood, Post Mortem

THE vendetta of the commercial press follows a man even to his death. The facts about Tom Mooney were: Several big strikes—shoe, electric, street car—between 1910 and 1916 made him a marked man, and the employers' associations and the newspapers were his enemies. In the electric utility strike of 1915 an unsuccessful attempt was made to frame him on a dynamiting charge. Billings was convicted on the same accusation.

On July 22, 1916 the Preparedness Parade was bombed by a German agent. Years later a newspaperman told the whole story in Liberty magazine. Mooney was framed by detectives of the Pacific Gas & Electric Co. Every important witness later confessed perjury. Some told who paid them to lie.

Ernest Jerome Hopkins of the San Francisco Bulletin covered the trial. In 1931 he exposed the conspiracy of utility interests and the press to frame Mooney. "Sixteen years of printed poison" in the California press was blamed for keeping Mooney in jail.

When Governor Olson freed Mooney he apologized to the world for California's crime in keeping an innocent man in jail. Nevertheless many newspapers continue to print falsehoods about Mooney even after his death. The 19 dailies and weeklies owned by H C Ogden of Wheeling, W Va, a stooge for the Wheeling Steel Corp, Ernest Weir, and Weirton Steel used the word "convict" in headline, although news agency stories underneath did not.

Roy Howard's NY World-Telegram practically clinched this year's Pulitzer prize for hypocrisy by reprinting a paragraph from Ernie Pyle's interview with Mooney last month. This interview was syndicated and appeared in full in western papers but comparison with World-Telegram showed it had suppressed most important Mooney statements in original interview. World-Telegram also lied in stating that Mooney was associate of advocates of dynamite as a weapon in industrial warfare.

Lucy Parsons, widow of Albert Parsons, who was hanged after the Chicago

U S Airplane Maker Favors Hitler Over Russians . . . p. 1

Labor Paper Exposes 11 Press Fakes in Week . . . p. 1

Workers Reveal Contempt for Attitude of Business . . . p. 3
By SCOTT NEARING

Nonsense on the Air p. 4

THE following report, which has been circulating throughout Connecticut several weeks, has been confirmed for IN FACT by a Bridgeport newspaper man:

1. Igor Sikorsky, one of America's leading airplane designers and manufacturers, has refused to become the Connecticut head of an organization created to furnish medical supplies to the wounded of one of America's allies. This refusal was made in a letter on file in New York.

2. Igor Sikorsky, Russian-born American citizen, in making his refusal orally, declared that he preferred Hitler to win over Russia.

Sikorsky is a White Russian—that is, he was born under the Tsar and favors the restoration of the Tsarist regime.

Sikorsky is also a very religious man. He has just published "The Message of the Lord's Prayer" in which he states his devout views.

However, Sikorsky in preferring Hitler to win rather than the ally of the United States, is in the same boat with Charles E Coughlin who throughout the war has preferred Hitler to another ally of the United States, namely Britain. The landing of American soldiers in Ulster Ireland as part of the democratic world's effort to save its life from Fascism was headlined "U S Invades Ireland" in Coughlin's weekly Social Justice.

Sikorsky and Coughlin illustrate the threats to unity which endanger America's war effort. They also illustrate President Roosevelt's blast against a Cliveden Set.

LABOR PAPER EXPOSES 11 PRESS FAKES IN WEEK

EVERY week the labor-liberal press, which consists mainly of weekly publications—read by one American for every ten or twenty who read the papers—exposes the big commercial press which makes public opinion. Unfortunately the truth reaches only a few people and cannot counteract the poison served in the name of a free press to 42,000,000 daily newspaper buyers.

The latest issue of "Labor," the conservative weekly official organ of the Railroad Brotherhoods, supplies a good corroboration of IN FACT's charge that the press is unfair to labor and therefore to the majority of the people of our country. Here are eleven items from one issue of "Labor" (March 3):

1. "Uncle Sam's Spokesmen publicly denounce falsehoods about labor circulated by the press." Names are named and tough words used: "Lies put out by newspapers and press associations in their attempts to discredit labor and deprive it of its rights," says "Labor," "have become so flagrant that four government agencies during the last week found it necessary to repudiate the 'smear' campaign publicly.

"One of the most brazen of these anti-labor distortions was carried by the United Press. This yarn charged that a National Labor Relations Board investigation into 'company unionism' at Curtiss-Wright Aircraft plants was delaying airplane production.

"It was even suggested that the board's action was holding up parts needed for American planes now grounded in the Far East. Anonymous army and navy 'brass hats' were given by the UP as authority.

"The story was promptly denounced in strong terms by the Labor Board which declared it was part of a conspiracy to terrorize the board into abandoning its efforts to protect workers."

"Labor" then states the facts, quotes the Labor Board, gives the statement of Chairman Harry S Millis of the Labor Board, all justifying its charge that the United Press lied. The UP news is carried by about half the papers of

America and especially by the Scripps-Howard chain, 19 papers in 18 cities, controlled by Roy Howard, whom the American Newspaper Guild considers the hardest-hearted employer in journalism. The Howard outfit makes millions.

2. "Labor" continues: "Another UP yarn was nailed by Chairman William H Davis of the National War Labor Board . . . 'The UP dispatch which attributed to me the advocacy of a particular form of union status in the steel cases is wholly without foundation,' Davis said.

3. "Another lie officially scotched this week asserted that organized labor had asked for special consideration for its officials under the draft law."

A special story in "Labor," "Labor Did Not Ask Draft Exemption, Hershey Reveals," quotes selective service chief correcting the fake story which appeared on page 1 in most papers and which became the fraudulent basis for attacks on labor by native-Fascist Congressmen.

4. "The fourth government agency to lash at newspaper 'smearing' was the Department of Labor. The New York Times and other newspapers played up exaggerated figures put out by the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) on the number of strikes in defense industries during January, 'We have been publishing accurate figures on strikes for the past 8 years, one department official declared. 'No newspaper ever mentions these, however. But when the NAM releases a lot of inflated figures, newspapers fall over themselves to give them a big play.' . . . The NAM figures were based not on any authoritative compilation but solely on newspaper stories of strikes, most of which are poisoned to begin with."

Military Secrets Sold to Newspapers

5. "Military Secrets Sold to Newspapers and Enemy Agents." Readers of the commercial press with few exceptions are not aware that in his statement to the Senate Judiciary Committee considering censorship, Attorney General Biddle accused newspapers and magazines of actions approaching treason.

"The most closely guarded military secrets of the government have come into the possession of newspapers and magazines and ultimately into the hands of agents of enemy governments," "Labor's" story discloses. It continues:

"Biddle was testifying on an administration measure making it unlawful for unauthorized persons to divulge the contents of any confidential government document. The measure is under heavy fire. The newspapers are attacking it as a blow at 'freedom of the press,' and liberals in and out of Congress are fearful it may invade the citizen's constitutional guarantees. . . .

"Biddle . . . cited many instances where vital information has 'leaked,' some to newspapers willing to pay the price . . . Maps of Midway Island and its naval installations, copies of army codes, communications between the Navy Department and commanders at sea, and photographs of army camps and airfields, Biddle asserted, had been made available to newspapers and enemy agents . . . A newspaper whose identity was not disclosed was declared to have purchased secret aircraft data from employees of the Wright airplane plant at Paterson, N J. A technical journal . . . was declared to have printed 'detailed data' on planes under construction at the North American Aviation factory. This information, Biddle said, is now being studied by German experts in Berlin . . . Biddle (asked Senators) to keep in mind the main objective—the protection of the government from unscrupulous newspapers and enemy intelligence agents."

6. "Ruthless employers try to goad workers into acts of desperation, that press may 'smear.'" Under this 8-column headline "Labor" sums up the present war-labor-press situation, saying: "It has become as clear as the noon-day sun to union leaders in Washington that ruthless anti-labor employers are doing all in their power to goad workers into acts of desperation, knowing that newspapers will play them up as a blow to the war effort. The bosses have become brazen in their methods of provocation, knowing that the press, under glaring headlines, will try to give the impression that workers, when they strike, are helping Hitler." Some instances:

Washington Star Libels U.S. Workers

President Harvey W Brown of International Association of Machinists reports serious situation throughout America. Union has adopted a no-strike for duration policy, applauded in press. But employers take advantage of it to refuse to negotiate anything. "In many instances," reports President Brown, "our people are bluntly told by employers they won't even do what the law requires of them, now that there will be no strikes. This situation is rapidly becoming intolerable." If strikes should occur, following owners' refusal to obey the law, the press will of course blame labor. It refuses to report employers' actions today.

7. "Washington 'Star' Libels Workers." This paper's suggestion that MacArthur is being bombed because he has no airplane protection due to labor delays at home is exposed as "as vile a libel as has ever been uttered against American workers." Labor leaders, not the auto companies, tried to convert plants to airplane production more than a year before Pearl Harbor. Continues "Labor," "The President at a press conference, reported in the Star, stated frankly and emphatically why it is impossible to send relief to MacArthur. . . . The Star deliberately ignored the President's statement in order to whip up

Haymarket riots in 1886, died March 7, again affording the newspapers opportunity to sneer at "labor martyrs." The man who threw the bomb in Chicago was never caught; the men who were arrested and hanged were not guilty of anything but fighting for the 8-hour day, which is now established in America. These are now historically established facts, and it is also a fact that the press created the public hysteria which led to the hanging of innocent men.

Conspiracy of Silence

WHEN the newspapers in their hundred years war against organized labor in America have at times been unable to slander and smear labor leaders and help frame them—(Documentation on Haymarket, Ludlow, Lawrence, etc., in Yellen's "American Labor Struggles")—they resort to a conspiracy of silence. If falsehood fails they believe that suppression of news will be effective. The newspapers of our time maintained a conspiracy of silence against Eugene V Debs in the Pullman strike, William Z Foster in the 1919 steel strike, also against pro-labor leaders Bob LaFollette Sr and Charles Lindbergh Sr. For years not a line about them was permitted in many papers. (In 1940 election campaign Col McCormick kept President Roosevelt's name out of the Chicago Tribune frontpage for weeks.)

Latest victim of newspaper conspiracy of silence is secretary of American Communist party, Earl Browder, Kansas-born descendant of Revolutionary War and Civil War soldiers whose arrest was called unjust and political trick by Wendell Willkie when he was running for President. Seventy-five labor union leaders, all non-Communists, representing 2,000,000 members, sent petition to Roosevelt asking Browder's freedom, but newspapers refused to give story one line, whereas one union's dissociating itself from its organizer's individual signature to FDR petition got large space in the press. (March 16). The fact that Tom Mooney devoted last year of his life heading committee seeking freedom for Browder was omitted from most newspapers. Newspapers in NY, Chicago, Philada, Washington, Detroit, Baltimore, Boston, Pittsburgh, St Louis and San Francisco accepted large advertisements of a statement asking Roosevelt to free Browder as part of the Battle for Production program and unity in war against Fascism, which 188 labor leaders signed, but no newspaper printed a word in news columns.

The main point made by defenders of questionable integrity and honesty of American press is that it "presents both sides," meaning Republican and Democratic Party sides. In majority of papers no new party—Farmer-Labor, American Labor Party, Non-Partisan League, Progressive, Prohibitionist or any Marxist party, Socialist or Communist—is ever given space, but usually attacked, smeared, lied about. Falsehood or silence is press policy.

Press Agents Barred

MOVIE press agents in the home offices in New York, organized in the Screen Publicists Guild, write tons of trumped-up ballyhoo for their employers which the newspapers serve up to the public as news that's fit to print. Last week the Screen Publicists began making real

news. With one exception—PM which takes no advertising—the commercial newspapers ignored it.

Last summer the Screen Publicists Guild of New York was certified as sole collective bargaining agent for movie press agents and advertising men and women. In September negotiations were opened for a contract. Twice agreement was reached, and twice the companies involved, Columbia, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Paramount, RKO-Radio, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists and Universal, repudiated the commitments of their own committee.

The Guild asked for mediation through the New York State Mediation Board. The companies spurned it.

In the interest of national unity, the Guild insisted and forced the companies into further negotiations. Again agreement was reached. That was on last March 3. The companies were to ratify within 48 hours. Days went by and no word came. The Guild set a deadline. Still no word.

Finally, on March 12, the members of the Guild began passing out leaflets in front of the first-run theatres, informing the public that it was "not a strike, not a picket line," and asking movie fans to send their protests to the Hays office, properly styled The Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, 28 West 44th Street, New York, N. Y.

The Screen Publicists sent news releases to the newspapers in vain. Movie companies are advertisers. Advertisers control the press.

Northerners to Blame

THE House anti-strike bill, written by Rep Howard Smith, was passed because Southern Democrats were solid for it. But before readers become angry at this group they should consider these facts:

1. Many Congressmen are elected to office by the money of the National Ass'n of Manufacturers, or other Big Business groups.

2. More than 90% of industry in the South is owned in the North.

3. The same group controls industry, North and South; it fights labor North and South; it hires Congressmen wherever it can. Apparently Southern Democrat politicians corrupt more easily. It is a matter of relativity.

Press Helped France Fall

FRANCE was betrayed to Germany by its Two Hundred Families, the owners of big industry, the national bank, and controllers of national politics, the equivalent of our National Association of Manufacturers. The falsifiers of history have put out propaganda blaming labor, the 40-hour week, social reforms similar to our New Deal. But "France fell very largely because her economy was honeycombed by Nazi penetration,"

If the number above your name is:

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50* or 10. You will receive 3 more issues

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Cut your name and address from front page—write your NEW address on it and mail with 5¢.

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a campaign of slander against American workers. . . . The Star is one of the most profitable newspapers in the world. It has made members of the Noyes family rich beyond the dreams of Croesus. American soldiers are fighting and American workers are working in order to maintain the system which has been so good to Noyes family. The Star rewards those efforts by cruelly lying about American workers, and thus endeavoring to persuade our soldiers in the trenches that they are being betrayed by the folks back home, and that the government they serve is not doing anything about it. Is it possible to conceive of anything more monstrously untrue!"

8. In a special article on the visit of Governor Rexford G Tugwell, of Puerto Rico, "Labor" says: "Tugwell got 'in dutch' by trying to prevent the poisoning of the American people by patent medicine fakers and unscrupulous food manufacturers. Newspapers and magazine publishers who derive a substantial portion of their income from nostrum advertising (such as cold cures—Ed note) launched a campaign of abuse against Tugwell that eventually forced him out of public life."

9. Under the heading, "Over half of U S workers earn less than living wage" the report issued by the Departments of Labor and Treasury are summarized, proving that the campaigns in press and Congress to clamp down on wage increases to prevent inflation are fakes. Labor Department study of 33 cities shows \$29 a week necessary for worker's family of four. This was based on WPA budget of 1935 brought up to date for December 1941. Mr Morgenthau's tabulation shows 3,324,000 workers earn only \$5 to \$10 a week; 4,975,000 earn from \$10 to \$15; 5,470,000 from \$15 to \$20; 10,747,000 from \$20 to \$30. "In other words a total of 24,500,000 persons get paid less than the amount declared by the WPA and Department of Labor necessary for bare subsistence. . . . Facts similar to these, showing that millions are far below an American standard of living, were presented this week to President Roosevelt." Did you see them frontpaged in your newspaper? You did not.

10. "Papers Won't Print This." Although labor was blamed for the Los Angeles Bethlehem Steel workers' refusal to work 10-hour shifts, government authorities decided the corporation defied the Navy Department and War Production Board rulings to use three 8-hour shifts.

11. In a feature box story "Labor" said: "Scare newspaper headlines have tried to give the impression of a wave of strikes, but . . . War Production Board, top defense agency, revealed that only a single walkout was affecting defense production. That strike involved 1,000 workers at Crucible Steel . . . one seventieth of one percent of 7,000,000 at work on defense."

These eleven instances, reported in one issue of a labor paper, are samples of the daily poisoning of the American people by its corrupt press.

WORKERS' CONTEMPT FOR ATTITUDE OF BUSINESS

BY SCOTT NEARING

SWINGING around the U S A this winter has left one very clear impression: many people who work for a living are disgusted with the leaders of business and contemptuous of their attitude. As one carpenter put it: "As far as I can see, all that the big boys are doing with this war is to make money out of it."

Men who work on war construction jobs report that the contractors are needlessly running up costs. And why shouldn't they? They are in business for profit, and the bigger the cost, the bigger the profit on a cost-plus basis.

Where plants are being converted from peace production to war production, the government pays, so why worry? And in the test periods, when costs are being determined as a basis for figuring profit, foremen and department managers warn the men to take their time. Once the costs are fixed, however, the old speedup begins again with a vengeance. There is more profit in it that way.

The revelations of profiteering published in the report of the House Naval Affairs Committee occasioned no surprise among those employed on war work. "Say, if you think that's profiteering, I'd like to tell you a real one!"—and the worker spins a tale from his own experience that makes the printed figures look sick.

Then came the year-end reports of stock-sales to establish losses as a basis of income tax evasion. A mid-December issue of the New York Times financial section begins its stock market story: "Dealings in low-priced shares to establish losses for income tax purposes continued yesterday to dominate trading in the New York Stock Exchange."

"There you have it," a worker comments. "Boys in the army at \$21 a month. And these tax-dodgers, with their tens of thousands of income, playing cheap tricks."

Then, to cap the climax, every worker in the U S who has read a newspaper or listened in on news reports knows that the same business crowd that is profiteering and tax-dodging in the U S today was only yesterday making profit by selling the Axis gasoline, scrap iron, copper, aluminum, airplanes and guns.

American workers face World War II in a very different frame of mind from that in which they approached World War I. Then they expected democracy and peace, but got profiteering, unemployment and a new arms race.

This time they are prepared to insist upon jobs, security, democracy at home, and a world government to keep peace abroad.

NONSENSE ON THE AIR

UNDER the heading "poison on the air" we have published many protests of readers against anti-labor Fascist-minded broadcasts by many radio commentators (whose sponsors are usually anti-labor manufacturers). Also, protests against Town Meeting of the Air, where for instance questions of sabotage by big business of defense program are not permitted. Many college professors and members of Institute for Propaganda Analysis commended IN FACT for this.

One of the latest Town Meetings (WJZ March 5) contained no poison but considerable nonsense. Moderator Denny selected for topic "The War and Our Nerves." Speakers: Estelle Lloyd, Helen Hiatt, David Seabury and Dr Gregory Zilboorg.

Miss Lloyd gave excellent straight story of being under air bombardment. Miss Hiatt, NBC news reporter, then contributed probably more adolescent nonsense than ever heard in nationwide hookup in history. Instead of relating war experiences she philosophized in favor of a war without hate—"Hate is a destructive thing," she opined—and suggested that Hitler had done a big job in creating unity but his only failure was that he confined his works to Germany instead of applying them on a larger scale. (The unity Hitler got was the unity of the grave. It was achieved by murder of the opposition and slavery of a great part of the population.)

Seabury, the psychologist, joined this adolescent nonsense, approving a "war without hate"; he said it is not our job to take the war of nerves to the enemy, he was against this propaganda, and he ended up by quoting the Bible.

At this point Dr Zilboorg interrupted to say that Jesus used propaganda and that he used weapons. "Jesus used the scourge—the gun of modern times."

In the question period Seabury repeated the old hokum of the National Association of Manufacturers, the Buchmanites and Mussolini, that there was no "real" conflict between capital and labor; it was all a question of love, human decency, humanitarianism.

Someone in the audience asked "Doesn't hate lead to insanity?"

Dr Zilboorg replied "Don't be afraid." He added that "insanity" was a 17th century word, a legal term, that it meant nothing.

To another cockeyed question on making peace with the Germans, Dr Zilboorg replied: "I do not think of the Sunday leg of lamb while I am fighting in the trenches."

Dr Zilboorg said it was nonsense to think of fighting this war without hate. He was the only speaker to advocate fighting Fascism—a subject the highschool war correspondent and the psychologist who preceded him did not mention.

Brilliantly discoursing on the war of nerves, Dr Zilboorg added that the Nazis were trying to keep us in a state of fear. Man naturally fears death, continued the psychiatrist, but "he who fights valiantly, while also afraid to die, lets his fear be transformed into hate, into the combative spirit." The combative spirit saved London, Moscow and Leningrad.

The lives of five to ten million American boys are being risked to defeat the universal enemy of civilization—Fascism. In such a dangerous time it is amazing to find Moderator Denny presenting 8,000,000 listeners with sophomoric drivel (Hiatt) and sentimental balderdash by Seabury. But Zilboorg ought to get a note of thanks from Douglas MacArthur.

is the statement of our Department of Justice (IN FACT March 9).

Since the world knew that the press of France was even more corrupt than the press of the United States, it was logical that when all the evidence of the betrayal was in, the French press would not be spared. Now comes one of the few unbribed French journalists, Mme Tabouis, with her new book "They Called Me Cassandra" (Scribners, \$3) who tells how Hitler for years bought up the editorial policy of French newspapers. "The bad odor of foreign propaganda had penetrated the press so overwhelmingly that it was impossible to conceal the rottenness at the core of the Fourth Estate." Editors of Le Temps, leading paper, and Figaro, were exposed by radical journalists and found guilty of taking bribes from Hitler. "The power given to the trade unions by the Blum (popular front) gov't had nothing whatever to do with the collapse. . . . The greatest patriots in France were the peasants and workers. . . . It was the well-to-do, the businessmen, the industrialists, the bankers, the newspaper owners, who sold out to the enemy. They feared Communism more than they loved France. They preferred to be vanquished by Hitler rather than to be victorious with Stalin."

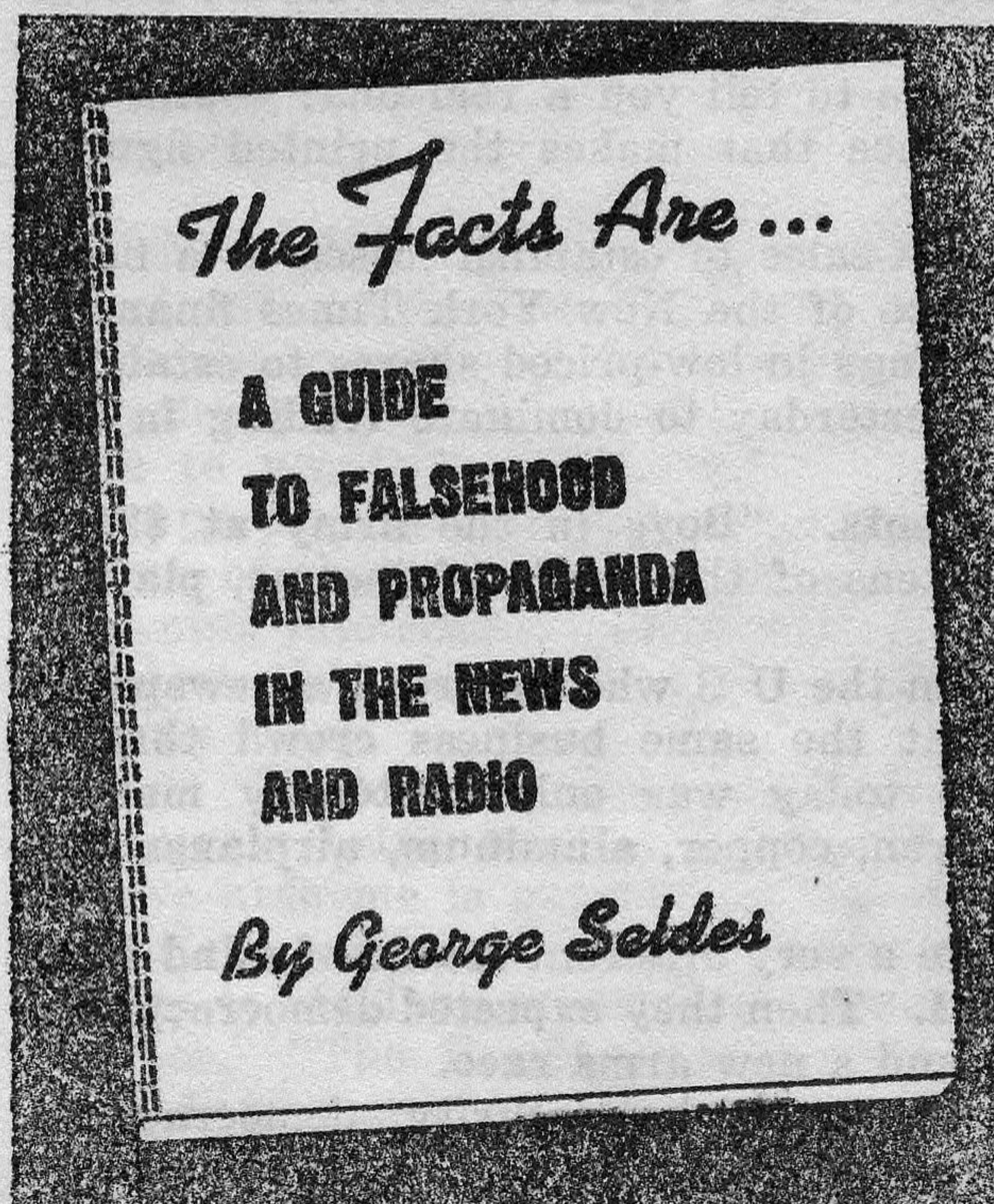
Mme Tabouis' important book contains a warning to America against its own Fascists.

19 to 1 for Falsehood

TAKING as his tip IN FACT's statement ("The press puts Dies' falsehoods on Page 1, refuses to publish facts anywhere") Lewis Booth of Dayton, O., associate editor Official Union Journal, Cincinnati, sent a correction to 20 Ohio newspapers which published Congressman Dies' latest smear on labor. The typical Dies falsehood had said there were 500 criminals in the CIO. He gave records of 20. A test of all available named cases proved Dies 100% false.

Nineteen Ohio papers refused to print the truth about Dies. Dayton Daily News did.

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Rules of the Subscription Contest

A contestant is any subscriber to In Fact (excepting employees and their families) who sends in a minimum of 5 yearly subscriptions and/or renewals at \$1 not later than 12 P.M., May 8th, 1942 (closing date). Subscriptions and/or renewals must be clearly marked for "Contest Department." A contestant may receive the help of others, but only the contestant will receive credit. Subscriptions and/or renewals must be accompanied with the full amount due; use money order, check or registered mail. Do not accumulate subscriptions; send them in as you get them. These rules are condensed from the complete statement of Contest Rules appearing in the Feb. 2nd issue. Copy mailed on request.

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